

T H E C L E V E L A N D M U S E U M O F A R T

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MONDAY, MAY 5, 1975

Six artists and craftsmen from Ohio's Western Reserve region have won awards in The Cleveland Museum of Art's 56th annual juried exhibition, the "May Show."

Announcement was made Monday afternoon (May 5) at a preview for the exhibition. The show opens Wednesday (May 7) and will continue through June 15 in the special exhibition galleries on the Museum's first and second floors.

Akron artist Harry Wheeler, recipient of special mentions in painting and graphics in several previous May Shows, has won the \$1000 award in painting for a bold, surrealist-inspired work entitled Heaven Only Knows. Cleveland Institute of Art instructor Edwin Mieczkowski received the \$1000 award in graphics for Winged Buffalo, a subtle abstract drawing with color on paper.

As was the case last year, the award in sculpture was split between two artists. Gene Kangas, assistant professor of art at Cleveland State University, was awarded \$500 for his nine-foot high painted aluminum and steel sculpture, Exit. Roger F. Blakley was also awarded \$500 for two handsome bronzes, both untitled. Blakley, a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Art and holder of a master's degree in sculpture from Kent State University, now resides in Urbana, Illinois.

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2-may show

The \$1000 award in crafts went this year to Gail S. Vandy Bogurt, a fifth-year student in ceramics at the Cleveland Institute of Art. Miss Vandy Bogurt received the award for two entries: The Gentle Wood, Wind, a pair of imaginative and beautifully made porcelain containers; and With Pinkie Extended, a whimsical cream pitcher and sugar bowl of salt-glazed porcelain.

Recipient of the Horace E. Potter Memorial Award for Excellence in Craftsmanship is Cleveland jewelry designer Isadore M. Greenberg. His award-winning Flaming Lapis is a massive ring, with a square-cut stone of polished lapis lazuli mounted in an 18-carat gold setting.

In addition to the award-winning works, 33 others have been cited by show jurors for special mention. There were nine special mentions in painting, seven in graphics, seven in photography, two in sculpture, and eight in crafts, which include textiles, ceramics, glass, and jewelry.

Museum curator of modern art Edward B. Henning, who has viewed nearly thirty May Shows, calls this year's exhibition, "the best in my memory." He adds, "Jurors had to choose from an abundance of works of very high quality."

The 1975 May Show includes 317 works by 262 artists. Works were selected by seven jurors, made up of members of the Museum's professional staff, from 2,825 entries (an increase of 646 over last year). Installation was under the direction of Museum designer William E. Ward. Coordinator of this year's May Show is Tom Hinson, assistant curator of modern art.

For the length of the exhibition, the May Show galleries will be open on Friday evenings until 10 p.m. The Museum is open regularly on Wednesday evenings until 10 p.m.

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3-may show

Gallery talks on the May Show will be given at 1:30 p.m. on two Wednesdays, May 14 and May 28, and two Sundays, May 18 and June 1. A slide-tape presentation on the history of the May Show, including highlights from this year's show, will be shown each day of the exhibition in the audio-visual center on the Museum's lower level.

One of the largest, and most highly regarded exhibitions of regional art in the country, the Cleveland May Show has been held each year since 1919, excepting 1970 when construction was being completed on the Museum's new educational wing.

Entry in the exhibition is open to artists and craftsmen who live in the 13-county Western Reserve area of Northeast Ohio, or who were born in Cuyahoga County. Eligible works are limited to those completed during the year preceding exhibition entry.

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For further information or photographs, contact Ann Edwards or Frances Stamper, The Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106; (216) 421-7340, Ext. 274.